

Remarks

At the mailing of the office action, claims 1-27 were pending in the application. In the office action, the Office presented rejections for claims 1-4, 9-17 and 22-26. The Office also indicated that claims 5-8, 18-21 and 27 would be allowable is rewritten in independent form including each of the intervening claims.

In this response, the applicants have cancelled claims 1-4, 9-17 and 22-26 without prejudice solely in the interest of furthering this case towards allowance. As such, the applicants are not making any admission as to the relevance of the references cited by the Office in the office action, nor any positions set forth by the Office. Rather, the applicants are simply cancelling these claims with the right to further prosecute them in a continuation application.

The applicants have amended claims 5-8, 18-21 and 27 in accordance with the Office's instructions and as such, these claims are in condition for allowance.

The Office's attention to this response is greatly appreciated. If the Office has any questions or if there are any actions that can be handled through an Examiner's Amendment, the applicant requests the Office to contact the attorney of record using the below-provided contact information.

Respectfully submitted,

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